

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of  
JOSEPH E. PASCENTE, ET AL.

Serial No: 08/526,433

Filed: September 11, 1995

Title:  
METHOD OF PREVENTING  
COMBUSTION BY APPLYING  
AN AQUEOUS SUPERABSORBENT  
POLYMER COMPOSITION; AND FIRE  
RETARDANT ARTICLE INCLUDING  
SUPERABSORBENT POLYMER

Group Art Unit: 1314

Examiner: J. Bell

Attorney Docket No. 28216/10018

) I hereby certify that  
) this paper is being  
) deposited with the United  
) States Postal Service as  
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) envelope addressed to:  
) Assistant Commissioner  
) for Patents, Washington,  
) DC 20231 on

August 18, 1997

*Richard H. Anderson*  
Richard H. Anderson  
Reg. No. 26,526

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby bring to the Examiner's attention documents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants have enclosed a completed Form PTO-1449 listing the possibly pertinent documents and a copy of each document listed.

This Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not presently under final rejection and in which no claims stand allowed. Therefore, under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office. No item of information contained in this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)). Accordingly, no fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is due.

The enclosed brochures for BARRICADE™ Fire-Blocking Gel and FIRE BLASTER™ describe gel-producing fire retardant thickeners. Based on the OSHA Material Safety Data Sheet for the BARRICADE® gel (CAS #25085-02-3), the gel material is a copolymer of an acrylate and an acrylamide in petroleum hydrocarbon solvents (CAS #64742-55-8). From a comparison of the FIRE BLASTER™ material, it appears to be the same copolymer. Laboratory analysis reveals that these copolymers are about 40% by weight water-soluble and, therefore, do not absorb at least 20 times their weight in water (Spec. page 1, line 21) or produce gels of comparable structural integrity with the superabsorbent polymers that are the subject of all claims of Applicants' invention.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 or under applicable rules (except payment of issue fees), to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed.



Respectfully submitted

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BY:

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